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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Baltic States)

DATE DISTR. 14 JAN 52

SUBJECT Proposed Road Construction

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE ACQUIRED

SUPPLEMENT 50X1-HUM
REPORT NO.

DATE OF

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1. construction of bridges in East Prussia, a similar project is at present being carried out in Lithuania.
2. "During the last days of September 1951, shipments of machinery for the construction of roads were dispatched by rail from Minsk to Lithuania. These transports consisted of heavy steam rollers for crushing stones and levelling roads, various types of trucks from the Minsk Automobile Factory (MAZ) with mounted cranes, aggregators, bulldozers, and digging machines. On 20 Oct 51, technical combines, which had received this equipment, were set up for the construction of roads, in Wilno, Mazeikiai and Kaunas.
3. "The roads, which will be built at the maximum possible speed, will run from Liepaja (Latvia) via Polanga and Klaipeda (Lithuania), to Kaliningrad in East Prussia. Another route, which will be partly new-built and partly the existing roads improved and widened, will lead from Daugavpils, via Ezerenai and Wilno, to Grodno. Both these roads had, until now, ordinary gravel surfaces and only wooden bridges, which were 90% destroyed during the war. Now these roads will be built with concrete surface and with concrete bridges. Both routes have great strategic importance because they connect the Baltic areas with East Prussia and Poland.
4. "In connection with this project special courses for technicians and road construction workers have been opened in Wilno, Kaunas and Klaipeda, pursuant to a decree of the Lithuanian Ministry of Construction, dated 1 Dec 51. A total of about 3,000 persons, technicians and workers, are being recruited to attend these courses and to be employed later on the road and bridge construction project."

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